

MR2919-18

Serial Number: 09/662,991

Reply to Office Action dated 15 September 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

At the outset, the courtesies extended by the Examiner at the 19 October 2006 interview are appreciatively noted. At the interview, the references cited in the 15 September 2006 Office Action were discussed in light of the clarifying amendments proposed to the claims by the undersigned attorney, as set forth herein.

Agreement as to the Claims having been reached at the interview, independent Claims 1, 7, and 13 are amended for further prosecution with the other pending Claims. It is believed that with such amendment of Claims, there is a further clarification of the Claims' recitations.

As a supplement to Applicants' earlier-filed Response of 14 September 2006, each of the independent Claims is amended to clarify among the recited combination of features the establishment of "acknowledgment-responsive wireless communication with an external source wherein the packet is re-sent after a latency period in the absence of an acknowledgment signal for the packet." The key-caching features recited in these Claims are carried out so as "to prepare the cache within the latency period," such that "the packet subsequently re-sent by the external source" may be decrypted in timely manner, even where the required key is not initially available from cache (as each of the newly-amended independent Claims further clarifies).

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The full combination of these and other features clearly recited by the pending Claims is nowhere disclosed by the cited Aziz and Smith references. As pointed out earlier, responding in any particular time-constrained manner to a message sender is hardly a concern in the primarily-cited Aziz reference. The goal of the reference is to vigilantly guard against breach of security by carefully scrutinizing and discarding messages determined to be from an imposter, or "cracker." The reference, in fact, compares its handling of received messages to be "similar ... to a government mail system," where operation occurs in completely "session-less" manner (Column 6, lines 62, 66). This teaches clearly away from any "acknowledgment-responsive ... communication with an external source wherein the packet is re-sent after a latency period in the absence of an acknowledgment signal for the packet," much less one carried out in such manner as "to prepare the cache within the latency period," as each of the newly-amended independent Claims 1, 7, and 13 now more clearly recites.

Turning to the Smith reference, that reference simply discloses an approach whereby recently received information is stored in cache, so that redundant later transmissions of the same information may be obviated. While the reference certainly contemplates two way communication, it nowhere contemplates such key-caching features as the retrieval of the required key information from outside the cache in time "to prepare the cache within the latency period" between initial and re-sent packets, as the newly-amended independent Claims each now more

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clearly recite. Indeed, Smith's apparatus nowhere even attempts to look elsewhere for any information that may not be found in its cache, and simply allows itself to receive the information again. Clearly, Smith also teaches away from Applicants' claimed combinations of features.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that the Aziz and Smith references, even when considered together, do not disclose the unique combination of elements clearly recited by Applicants' pending Claims for the purposes and objectives disclosed in the subject Patent Application. Nor do the other references cited by the Examiner but not used in the rejection.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed fully in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

No fees are believed to be due for this filing. If there are any fees associated with this filing, the Honorable Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account #18-2011 for such fees.

Respectfully submitted,
For: ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE



Jun Y. Lee
Registration #40,262

Dated: 10/23/2006

Suite 101
3458 Ellicott Center Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 465-6678
Customer No. 04586

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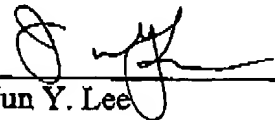
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